



EV 368629693

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1 IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

2 Application Serial No. 09/599,806
3 Filing Date Jun 21, 2000
4 Inventorship Banks et al.
5 Applicant..... Microsoft Corporation
6 Group Art Unit 2174
7 Examiner SAX, STEVEN PAUL
8 Attorney's Docket No. MS1-557US
9 Title: Methods and Systems of Providing Information to Computer Users

10 RECEIVED

11 FEB 27 2004

12 PETITION TO THE DIRECTOR

13 Technology Center 2100

14 To: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
15 Alexandria VA 22313-1450

16 From: Lance R. Sadler (Tel. 509-324-9256; Fax 509-323-8979)
17 Lee & Hayes, PLLC
18 421 W. Riverside Avenue, Suite 500
19 Spokane, WA 99201

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2 This petition is filed under 37 CFR §1.181 entitled "Petition to the
3 Director". Applicant received a paper from the PTO dated 2/12/2004 indicating
4 that the subject application was abandoned as the PTO had not received a reply to
5 the Office Action dated 3/12/03. Applicant did indeed timely file a response to
6 this paper and respectfully submits that this application should not have been
7 abandoned. Applicant submits herewith, in accordance with §1.181(b), the
8 following statement of facts and exhibits.

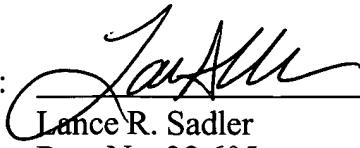
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10 1. Applicant prepared and filed a timely Response to the Office Dated
11 3/12/03. This Response was filed on 6/12/03 and is included as
12 Exhibit A. The Response included 44 pages of text.
13
14 2. This Response was filed by facsimile using the procedures set out by
15 the PTO. Accordingly, a Certificate of Transmission under 37 CFR
16 1.8 was completed on 6/12/03 by LeAnn Sassman and faxed, along
17 with the Response, to the PTO. The Certificate of Transmission is
18 attached as Exhibit B.
19
20 3. Applicant's representative received, from the PTO, an "Auto-Reply
21 Facsimile Transmission" indicating that the above Response was
22 timely received on 6/12/03 at 6:57:04 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time.
23 This document indicates that 46 pages were received. This
24 document is attached as Exhibit C.
25

20 Pursuant to 37 CFR 1,181(b) and MPEP §711.03(c)(I), Applicant
21 respectfully requests, in view of the Exhibits and statement of facts above, that the
22 following actions be taken by the PTO: (1) that the Examiner's holding of
23 abandonment be withdrawn, and (2) that the accompanying Response dated
24 6/12/03 be entered as being previously timely filed.

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Respectfully Submitted,

Dated: 2/23/04

By:


Lance R. Sadler
Reg. No. 38,605
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